

R E M A R K S

Claims 1-7, 9-12 and 14 are now in this application, and are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Claim 8 has been canceled, and claim 1 has been amended to provide a common independent claim, and to also include limitations from claim 7. This same amendment has recently been made in the corresponding European patent application. A similar set of claims has also been granted in the corresponding U.K. patent application.

As to the restriction/election requirement in the recent telephone call from the Examiner, it was pointed out that the present application is a national stage filing of a PCT application, and therefore, there is unity of invention as to the product and method claims under 37 C.F.R. 1.499 and 1.475.

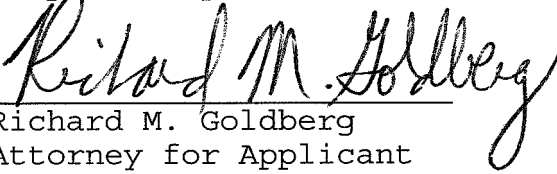
Therefore, the Examiner indicated that there was only an election of species requirement. It is noted that the embodiments of Figs. 9 and 10 are add-on features that can be used with either the embodiment of Figs. 1-6 or the embodiment of Figs. 7-8.

Therefore, in response to the telephone election of species requirement, applicant elects the species of Figs. 1-6, 9 and 10, without traverse. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-12 and 14 read on the elected species.

Please charge any additional fees incurred by this Preliminary Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-1524.

It is hoped that this Preliminary Amendment will facilitate an examination of the application on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard M. Goldberg

Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 28,215

25 East Salem Street
Suite 419
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
TEL (201) 343-7775
FAX (201) 488-3884
e-mail: goldbergpat@earthlink.net